

## Message Text

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VIENNA FOR UNIDO

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: AORG, UN  
SUBJECT: UN FIFTH COMMITTEE: SUMMARY OF 52ND MEETING,  
DECEMBER 15, 1976

1. SUMMARY: FIFTH COMMITTEE, BY CONSENSUS, APPROVED \$797,500 FOR THE 1976/77 PROGRAM BUDGET TO IMPLEMENT DECISIONS OF ECOSOC IN 1976. IT THEN BEGAN DEBATE ON PROPOSALS FOR A NEW SYSTEM FOR ADJUSTING PENSIONS PAID TO FORMER UN STAFF MEMBERS TO COMPENSATE FOR DIFFERENCES IN PURCHASING POWER IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES AS WELL AS FOR CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING AND IN CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATES. END SUMMARY

2. ITEM 92 - REVISED ESTIMATES RESULTING FROM DECISIONS OF ECOSOC AT 60TH AND 61ST SESSIONS. ACABQ CHAIRMAN MSELLE INTRODUCED ITS REPORT; USSR (VISLYKH) SAID HE DID NOT AGREE WITH REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS AND THAT NEW ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE FINANCED FROM SAVINGS ELSEWHERE IN BUDGET; JAPAN (TERADA) SUPPORTED TREND TOWARD GREATER SHARE OF BUDGET FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES, ADDING THAT HIS DELEGATION ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO ASSISTANCE TO MOZAMBIQUE AND ZAMBIA. BY CONSENSUS COMMITTEE APPROVED AMOUNT OF \$797,500 FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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SECTIONS 1, 4, 5A, 14, AND 18; AN AMOUNT OF \$93,000 IN SECTION 25 OFFSET BY EQUAL AMOUNT IN INCOME SECTION 1; AND CONFERENCE SERVICING COSTS NOT EXCEEDING \$566,000 IN CONTEXT OF TOTAL REQUIREMENTS OF REVISED CALENDAR FOR 1977. IT ALSO TOOK NOTE OF FOLLOWING IN ECOSOC REPORT A/31/3: CHAPTER 3, SECTIONS D AND G; CHAPTER 4, SECTION F;

CHAPTER 6, SECTIONS B AND C; CHAPTER 7, SECTION D, AND  
CHAPTER 8, SECTION H.

3. ITEM 104 - UN PENSION SYSTEM. CHAIRMAN ACABQ MSELLE  
INTRODUCED COMMITTEE'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDED GA DEFER  
ACTION ON PROPOSALS ON SELECTIVITY, EXTENTION OF LENGTH  
OF CONTRIBUTORY SERVICE AND SURVIVORS BENEFITS IN REPORT  
OF JOINT STAFF PENSION BOARD (JSPB) FOR TWO YEARS. CHAIRMAN  
OF PENSION BOARD, DENNIS MUSK, ASKED THAT CONSIDERATION BE  
GIVEN TO ADOPTING THE PROPOSED SCHEME AS AN INTERIM MEASURE  
FOR TWO YEARS. SAUDI ARABIA (AMB. BAROODY) SAID THAT INFLATION  
IS ERODING THE PENSION FUND AND CALLED FOR BETTER TREATMENT  
OF UN STAFF OVER AGE 60. ITELY (AMB. MAJOLI) AGREED WITH  
ACABQ AND JSPB SHOULD RECONSIDER AND REPORT TO 33RD SESSION,  
THOUGH AGREEING WITH SAUDI ARABIA AGAINST WAITING UNTIL  
THEN TO EXTEND PENSION BENEFITS FROM 30 - 32 YEARS; ALSO  
ASKED WHETHER AN EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE TO REDUCE FEES PAYABLE  
TO INSTITUTIONS HANDLING PENSION INVESTMENTS. AUSTRIA (MUCK)  
AND UK (STUART) FORMALLY PROPOSED FIFTH COMMITTEE APPROVE  
JSPB RECOMMENDATION TO EXTEND FROM 30 - 32 YEARS THE MAXIMUM  
PERIOD OF SERVICE IN WHICH A STAFF MEMBER CAN CONTINUE  
ACCRUING PENSION BENEFITS THOUGH ONLY AT HALF THE NORMAL RATE.  
AUSTRIA FULLY SUPPORTED DRAFT RESOLUTION IN ANNEX 6 (A/31/9)  
WITH EXCEPTION OF SECTION I CONCERNING ADJUSTMENT OF BENEFITS  
IN RESPECT OF COST OF LIVING; IT SUPPORTED CURRENT SYSTEM  
BASED ON WAPA/CPI. JAPAN (AKASHI) AGREEING WITH ACABQ,  
THOUGHT BEST COURSE WAS DEFERRAL OF DECISION ON NEW SCHEME  
FOR TWO YEARS; AND THAT MAXIMUM LENGTH OF CONTRIBUTORY  
SERVICE, INCREASE IN SURVIVOR'S BENEFITS, AND ENTRY INTO FUND  
AFTER AGE 60 SHOULD BE DEFERRED UNTIL GA RECEIVES NEW  
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ACTUARIAL FIGURES; ON WHOLE FAVORED COMPREHENSIVE RATHER  
THAN PIECEMEAL APPROACH. UK (STUART) FAVORED DEFERRAL OF  
SELECTIVITY SCHEME FOR TWO YEARS, ACABQ RECOMMENDATIONS RE  
INCREASE OF SURVIVORS' AND DISABILITY BENEFITS, REMOVAL  
OF AGE 60 AS BAR TO ENTRY INTO FUND, AND ADMINISTRATIVE  
EXPENSES; AGREED WITH JSPB'S RECOMMENDATIONS RE EMERGENCY  
FUND AND ADMISSION OF WIPO; DISAGREED WITH ACABQ ON LENGTH  
OF CONTRIBUTORY SERVICE, BELIEVING BOARD'S PROPOSAL IS RIGHT  
AND JUSTIFIED; FORMALLY INTRODUCED PROPOSAL EXTENDING  
FROM 30 TO 32 YEARS THE PERIOD OF SERVICE AND HOPED FOR  
COMMITTEE APPROVAL. FRG (SCHMIDT) SHARED ACABQ'S VIEW RE  
DEFERRAL OF PENSION SCHEME FOR TWO YEARS AND PROPOSED  
A TEXT WHICH WOULD HAVE THE ASSEMBLY ESTABLISH AS A  
"PRELIMINARY GUIDELINE" FOR A PENSION ADJUSTMENT SYSTEM  
THAT IT SHOULD CONTAIN AN INITIAL ADJUSTMENT OF BASE PENSION  
IN ORDER TO COMPENSATE IN PART FOR COUNTRY-TO-COUNTRY  
DIFFERENCES IN THE COST OF LIVING.  
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